

THE LANCASTER NEWS

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\$1.50 A YEAR.

AVOID WAR, SAYS PRESIDENT WILSON

Speaks of Nation's Affairs With Gravity

AT GRIDIRON CLUB

President Says He Would be Just as Much Ashamed to be Rash as He Would to be a Coward.

Washington, Feb. 27.—President Wilson told members and guests at a Gridiron Club dinner last night that America ought to keep out of the European war, "at the sacrifice of everything except this single thing upon which her character and her history are founded, her sense of humanity and justice."

The address was confidential since the speeches at the dinners of the Gridiron Club, composed of newspaper correspondents, are not reported. It was made public tonight, however, with the consent of the president and the club, because many of those who heard it urged that it should go to the country.

The president spoke of the nation's affairs with unusual gravity. His hearers, including several hundred members of congress, government officials, business men and correspondents, were brought to their feet cheering when he concluded with these words:

True Valor.

"I would be just as much ashamed to be rash as I would to be a coward. Valor is self-respecting. Valor is circumspect. Valor strikes only when it is right to strike. Valor withholds itself from all small implications and entanglements and waits for the great opportunity when the sword will flash as if it carried the light of heaven upon its blade."

In his address he said:

"I have very little to say tonight, except to express my warm appreciation of the invariable courtesy of this club and of the reception you have so generously accorded me. I find that I am seldom tempted to say anything nowadays unless somebody starts something and tonight nobody has started anything."

"Your talk, Mr. Toastmaster, has been a great deal about the candidacy for the Presidency. It is not a new feeling on my part, but one which I entertain with a greater intensity than formerly, that a man who seeks the Presidency of the United States for anything that it will bring to him is an audacious fool. The responsibilities of the office ought to sober a man even before he approaches it. One of the difficulties of the office seldom appreciated, I dare say, is that it is very difficult to think while so many people are talking, and particularly while so many people are talking in a way that obscures counsel and is entirely off the point."

National Affairs.

"The point in national affairs, gentlemen, never lies along the lines of expediency. It always rests in the field of principle. The United States was not founded upon any principle of expediency, it was founded upon a profound principle of human liberty and of humanity, and whenever it basis its policy upon any other foundations than those it builds upon the sands and not upon the solid rock. It seems me that the most enlightening thing a man can do is suggested by something which the Vice-President said to-night. He complained that he found men who, when their attention was called to the signs of spring, did not see the blue heaven, did not see the movement of free clouds, did not think of the great spaces of the quiet continent, but thought only of some immediate and pressing piece of business. It seems to me that if you do not think of the things that lie beyond and away from and disconnected from this scene in which we attempt to think and conclude you will inevitably be led astray. I would a great deal

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STATE TEACHERS TO MEET.

Interesting Program for Gathering in Columbia March 16-18.

Spartanburg, Feb. 29.—The program for the annual meeting of the State Teachers' Association in Columbia March 16-18 is regarded as one of the most attractive in a number of years. The chief address of the convention will be delivered on the night of the opening session, March 16, at 8:30 o'clock, by Dr. Bruce R. Payne, President of Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tenn. The teachers are expecting a treat in this address. The annual address by Dr. Henry Nelson Snyder, the president of the Association, will also be delivered on Thursday evening. The report of the special committee on the reorganization of the Association will be delivered Thursday evening by Mr. R. S. Rogers, chairman of Dillon county.

The first session Friday will be given over to a discussion of the next steps in Educational Progress from various viewpoints. Among those who will take part in this discussion will be R. T. Hallum, Pickens; T. C. Easterling, Marion; Miss Elizabeth Dickson, Miss Madeline Spigener, Lueco Gunter, W. H. Hand and Dr. D. M. Douglas, president of the Presbyterian College.

Friday afternoon a reception will be tendered the visiting teachers at the University of South Carolina gymnasium.

Friday evening an address will be delivered by Rev. Arthur W. Dunn, of the United States Bureau of Education. Superintendent Swearingen and Dr. D. M. Ramsey will also deliver addresses.

Saturday will be given over to reports of committees.

Attractive programs have also been arranged for by all of the departments.

Averts Trouble For Coast Line.

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 25.—

An amicable settlement of the differences between the Atlantic Coast Line railroad and its train conductors because of the adoption by the road of the White audit system has been reached, it was announced yesterday by Judge Chambers of the federal board of mediation and conciliation, who was sent here to investigate the trouble.

Under the terms of the agreement Judge Chambers said, the railroad company agreed to abolish the White audit system on March 15, but reserved the right to inaugurate at any time after that date a system of train auditing upon any plan it may elect, provided the auditors are employees of the company and are in no way connected with an outside individual or corporation. The conductors agreed to withdraw the declaration that they would not submit to any auditing system that had not been mutually agreed upon and accepted by their adjustment committee.

A Lynching in Georgia Town.

Cartersville, Ga., Feb. 25.—

Jesse McCorkle, a negro, aged about thirty, was taken from jail here this morning and hanged to a tree in front of city hall. The body was riddled with bullets. There were forty or fifty in the crowd. McCorkle was captured soon after an alleged attack on Mrs. A. T. Heath. She shot him in the wrist.

Mrs. Mary A. Clingan Dead.

Mrs. Mary A. Clingan, wife of John D. Clingan, 553 Church St., died at 11:45 last night of paralysis of the nerves, aged 54 years. She had been confined to her bed two years. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church. Surviving her are her husband, daughter, Mamie, and one son, Harry, both at home. Funeral Saturday at 9 o'clock. Services at St. Mary's Catholic church by Father Hurlbut. Interment in Rose Hill.—Hagers-town, (Md.) Daily Mail, Feb. 24th.

VERDUN BATTLE'S FURY SHOWS NO SIGNS LET-UP

French Have Withdrawn Advanced Posts in Woevre Region.

ASSAILING FIERCELY.

Joffre's Troops Deal Blow After Blow on Germans Who Hold Ground With Difficulty.

The great battle ranging around Verdun in which a half-million men are engaged is still being fought at some points with the same fury as characterized it several days ago.

Champagneville, to the west, and fortified works of Bardaumont, to the east of Fort Douaumont, have been captured by the Germans. Berlin also claims to have captured the Cote de Talou, to the west of Douaumont, but according to the French official statement, the artillery fire coming from both sides has rendered this position untenable for either French or Germans.

The French are hurling attack after attack upon the Douaumont positions held by the Germans, who are declared to be maintaining themselves there with difficulty, but in the Woevre region, to the east of Verdun, the French advance posts have been withdrawn.

Large reinforcements are being brought up probably by both forces, and it is reported that the British lines are being extended in Belgium and France in order that French troops may be released for the Verdun battle.

In the Vosges mountains the Germans also started a heavy offensive southeast of Celles, but it was completely checked by the French. On the other extreme end of the line around Ypres a British attack was repulsed by the Germans.

Between Soissons and Rheims a vigorous bombardment has been carried out against the German positions. Marine disasters are again a feature of the news. Several steamers have blown up by the mines and it is believed that the recent great storm along the coast of England and the North Sea has set many powerful mines adrift.

The Peninsular & Oriental steamer Maloja, the mail steamer Mecklenburg, the steamer Empress of Fort William, and the steamer Birgit have been sunk, three of them by mines. The French steamer Trignac has been lost in the North Sea, two explosions splitting the vessel apart. The Maloja went down off Dover and more than 40 persons lost their lives. The loss on the Trignac is estimated at 26. In addition, it is confirmed that the British steamer Fastnet has been sunk in the Mediterranean by a submarine.

Germany has instructed the German Ambassador at Washington to inform the American Government that the assurances regarding the future conduct of submarine warfare will apply only to merchantmen of a peaceful character. From Berlin no authoritative statement can be obtained regarding the date on which Germany's announced intention to sink armed merchantmen without warning will become operative, although it is reported by German newspapers that the previously announced date, March 1, will be adhered to.

There has been considerable activity along the Russian front around Riga, Friedrichstadt and Iloukst. In the Caucasus region despite the heavy snow, which at places is breast deep, the Russians are continuing vigorously their pursuit of the Turks.

Chaplin Gets \$10,000 A Week With Mutual.

New York, Feb. 25.—Charlie Chaplin hereafter will be exclusively shown on Mutual films. Such an announcement was made today. The contracts, it is asserted, provide a bonus of \$100,000 for Chaplin, \$10,000 a week salary and a percentage of the business. The money to bind the contract is to be paid today.

FRENCHMEN FORCE THE TEUTONS BACK

Paris Says German Attacks Have Been Repulsed at Several Important Points.

BATTLE RAGES TO NORTH

Report Claims Germans Could Not Retain Footing at Fort Douaumont.

Paris, Feb. 28.—Attacks by the Germans to the north of Verdun, where the battle for the fortress still is raging fiercely, were driven back by the French fire and counter attacks, according to the official communication issued by the war office tonight. Hand to hand encounters occurred to the west of Fort Douaumont, and the Germans were driven from a small redoubt, which they had taken.

German attacks on Fresnes, in the Woevre, the communication adds, completely failed. The text reads:

In the Argonne our heavy batteries and field guns shelled the roads of access to the enemy, particularly in the region of the Cheppy wood. This morning at Hill 285 we exploded a mine, the crater of which we occupied.

In the region to the north of Verdun artillery activity on both sides is still violently spirited, except in the sector to the west of the Meuse, where an abatement of the enemy bombardment is reported.

The Germans during the day attempted several partial attacks which were driven back by our fire and counter-attacks. To the west of Fort Douaumont particularly, our troops have engaged in hand to hand encounters with the adversary, who was rejected from a small redoubt, where he had succeeded in installing himself.

In the Woevre two attacks against Fresnes completely failed.

In Lorraine our artillery has displayed marked activity in the sectors of Reillon, Domevre and Badonville.

The Belgian official communication says:

A bombardment rather weak, on both sides, took place along the Belgian front.

CREAT AREA UNDER WATER

Hundreds Said to Be Living on Improvised Flats.

Natchez, Miss., Feb. 26.—Further reports received here tonight from the Black River section of Louisiana told of increasing seriousness in the condition of the flood victims in that district. From a point just below Jonesville to the junction of the Black and Red rivers, a distance of forty-five miles, the country was said to be covered with water from four to fifteen feet deep. In this section, according to the reports, 1,500 persons, with a large number of farm animals, were living on improvised rafts, in flooded houses and on high spots in the land, with little food for refugees or live stock.

Heilner Held for Widow's Murder.

New York, Feb. 25.—An indictment charging murder in the first degree, growing out of the robbery and murder of Mrs. Julia Heilner, a wealthy Brooklyn widow, was returned today against Joseph E. Hanel, arrested recently in Baltimore. Hanel made a full confession, according to the district attorney's office, in which he declared he killed Mrs. Heilner by striking her over the head with a bottle and then strangling her with a rope.

Mrs. A. H. Twichell Injured.

Spartanburg, Feb. 26.—Mrs. A. H. Twichell was perhaps fatally injured and her colored chauffeur seriously injured here today when her limousine was struck by a Southern Railway train at the Union street crossing. Mrs. Twichell's condition to-night is unchanged. She is unconscious and has been since the accident.

NEW HOBSON'S CHOICE.

Former Congressman Chooses to Run Again.

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 27.—Information from Tuscaloosa, Ala. tonight says Former Congressman Richmond Pearson Hobson will be a candidate for congress from the new Tenth district, opposing W. B. Bankhead, son of United States Senator J. H. Bankhead, the only announced candidate. Mr. Hobson was defeated for the United States senate in 1914 by Oscar Underwood.

C. C. WYCHE A CANDIDATE

Spartanburg Lawyer Out For Lieutenant Governor.

Spartanburg, Feb. 24.—Special to The News and Courier: C. C. Wyche, of the local bar has announced his candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina. Mr. Wyche has always been a supporter of former Governor Bleasde.

Mexican-German Banker Arrested

New York, Feb. 25.—Federico Staliforth, a Mexican-German banker, was ordered today committed to the custody of the United States marshal by Judge Dayton for refusing to answer questions before the federal grand jury investigating alleged efforts of German agents to foment trouble between this country and Mexico, and to instigate strikes in munition factories.

Staliforth was closely associated, it is said, with Franz von Rintelen, the reputed head of the German propaganda in the United States.

The federal authorities have been anxious to find out just what relations existed between Staliforth and von Rintelen, but the banker has insisted that he could not be forced to answer on the ground that he is not a citizen of this country. Staliforth is the head of a German-Mexican bank with headquarters at Pinar, Mexico.

Doc. Freely Is Not To Die.

Anderson, Feb. 25.—Doc Freely will not be electrocuted of April 7th. Gen. M. L. Bonham, member of the counsel for the condemned man, announced today that notice of an appeal to the supreme court has been served on the solicitor. This notice automatically stays the execution.

Gen. Bonham said today that the recent general assembly changed the time for the sessions of the supreme court. Under the old rule the next session of this court would be in May. Under the new rule it will be held in April.

The court stenographer is now transcribing the testimony in the Freely case. Just as soon as he furnishes counsel for the prisoner a transcript of the testimony the appeal of the supreme court will be preceded.

HOME DEMONSTRATION.

Miss Creighton Organized Four New Clubs Last Week.

Meetings of the Pleasant Valley, Rich Hill, Oakhurst and Andoch Canning Clubs were held last week. After receiving instructions in the selection of a plot, preparation of hot bed, and the planting of seed, the following officers were elected:

Pleasant Valley: President; Mary Bailes—Vice-President; Loma Norman—Secretary; Annie Belle McManus.

Rich Hill: President; Ruth Reeves—Vice-President; Sarah Hinson—Secretary; Jewell Blackmon.

Oakhurst: President; Minnie Belle Hegler—Vice-President; Annie Hinson—Secretary; Thelma Watson.

Antioch: President; Maggie Barton—Vice-President; Ruby McManus—Secretary; Wilma Heglar.

These are excellent clubs and there is promise of a good year's work from them.

TRAGIC DEATH OF O. P. HEATH

Head of Firm of O. P. Heath & Co. Shoots Himself.

WAS IN BAD HEALTH

Financial Reverses, Added to Physical Ailments, Assigned as Cause. Had Spectacular Career.

The tidings of the death of Mr. O. P. Heath, of Charlotte, who was a native of this county and a former resident of the town, were received with sorrow in Lancaster, for Mr. Heath had a number of relatives as well as many warm personal friends here. He was an uncle of Mrs. Charles D. Jones and Mrs. John Crawford of this place. For a number of years Mr. Heath was one of Lancaster's leading business men being a member of the firm of Heath, Springs & Co., and later of the Heath-Jones Co. He was a progressive citizen, actively identified with every interest that made for the upbuilding of Lancaster. From the Charlotte Observer of to-day we take the following sketch of Mr. Heath:

"Mr. O. P. Heath, one of Charlotte's oldest, best known and in his day one of the South's most prominent cotton merchants, committed suicide yesterday morning at 11 o'clock in his office at No. 21 1-2 South College street by shooting himself thru the head with a 32-caliber Colt blue-steel revolver. Death was instantaneous. Ill health with the added tribulations brought on by financial reverses, are assigned to account for the act. Two notes, sealed and addressed to his wife, were found by those who reached the scene first. Their contents were not divulged but it is stated that they relate to intimate personal matters such as might be anticipated under the circumstances. The body will be carried to Monroe on the 10:10 o'clock Seaboard train this morning and the funeral will take place at the Central Methodist Church immediately on arrival. Rev. Dr. J. C. Rowe, of Salisbury assisted by Rev. M. T. Steele, of Hickory Grove and Rev. J. E. Abernathy, of Monroe, will have charge of the service.

Was Carefully Planned.

There was no doubt but that the suicide was carefully planned. Mr. Heath came to his office early and opened his mail as usual. He inquired about the market and appeared to be in his customary state of health, which however has not been good for several years. Shortly before 11 o'clock he asked his son George and his book-keeper, Theodore Harris, a nephew, to step out on small errands and that was the last seen of him alive. Mr. George Heath hurried out and just as he was in the act of starting up the stairs, leading to the office on his return he heard a pistol shot from above. He hurried up and found his father sitting in his office chair, in front of his desk, with his feet resting in a chair opposite, evidencing careful preparation, his right hand still clutching a revolver and his head leaning over on his chest, with the blood streaming from a hole in the skull, just above and behind his right ear. Mr. Heath turned instantly and rushed out for a physician but before Dr. J. A. Austin could arrive, he was dead. Doctor Austin stated that Mr. Heath's body was still quite warm but that his heart had stopped beating when he arrived. He expressed the belief that death had been almost instantaneous. Drs. C. S. McLaughlin and C. M. Strong were also on hand in a few minutes but nothing could be done. Lying on the desk where Mr. Heath had just finished writing them were two notes, addressed to his wife, in which he voiced his last appeal and told why he had been impelled to the act which ended it all.

In the meantime officers had

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